



# THE BEACON

Volume 1, Issue 2

Deadline for the next BEACON is Friday, October 12, 2012.

September 23, 2012

Send entries to [beacon@fccucc.org](mailto:beacon@fccucc.org).

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Worship	1
Council	2
S L & W	2-5
E G & F	3-5
Seniors	5
M & O	5-6
Administration	6-7
Calendar	
OCTOBER	8



## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*For peace and  
peacemakers; for our  
veterans and those in  
active service; for those  
who struggle with  
PTSD and injury; for*

*(continued pg. 2)*

## Looking Ahead in Worship

### September 30

8:30 a.m. - Chapel worship

10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship with the Meetinghouse Choir and Sunday school. John McCall will give the message. Fellowship time follows in Wright Pavilion.

### October 7 - World Communion Sunday

#### *Neighbors in Need Special Offering*

8:30 a.m. - Chapel worship with communion

10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship with communion, the Meetinghouse Choir and Sunday school. John McCall will give the message. Fellowship time follows in Wright Pavilion.

11:30 a.m. - *Love Free or Die*, a 90-minute video about New Hampshire Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson, followed by conversation in Davidson Lounge.

### October 14

8:30 a.m. - Chapel worship

10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship with the Meetinghouse Choir and Sunday school. Diane Harvey will give the message. Fellowship time follows in Wright Pavilion.

### October 21 - Consecration Sunday

8:30 a.m. - Chapel worship

10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship with the Meetinghouse Choir and Sunday school. Stewardship Committee members will lead worship, and John McCall will give the message. Fellowship time follows in Wright Pavilion.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL IS HERE** - Regular Sunday school classes for preschoolers through eighth grade are rocking! Each Sunday our children begin in the sanctuary and then leave for classes after the children's message. Nursery and toddler care are also offered each week for the 10 a.m. service. Families can register children for Sunday school online at: <http://fccucc.org/grow/sunday-school/sunday-school-registration/>

*Prayers of the People  
continued...*

*all who live without  
sufficient food, water,  
shelter, safety, love; for  
those confined to their  
homes and to nursing  
homes.*

**Continuing Prayers:**  
**Jeanie Lothrop** at  
Woodford Park  
Nursing Home; **Jill  
Saxby** home  
following surgery;  
**Edchen Ferguson**  
who recently moved  
to St. Joseph's Manor;  
**Harold Ahlsen**, now  
residing at Village  
Crossing.



**Please contact the  
office** if you or a  
family member is  
hospitalized. We  
check the lists at  
Maine Medical Center  
and Mercy regularly  
but may miss your  
name among the  
many. Email  
office@fccucc.org or  
phone 799-3361 to let  
us know.

## “Delight In Giving” Is Our Stewardship Theme

Last week you received our Stewardship Committee's letter which communicates three things: a great biblical theme, how we'll present it to you during our stewardship messages leading up to Consecration Sunday on October 21, and why this year, of all years, our commitments are critical to our church. This year our congregation begins the search and call of a high caliber pastor who will maintain what John McCall has led our congregation to become.

“Delight in Giving” is a great theme. At first we thought it might be adequate to tell members, with great enthusiasm, “You should take delight in making that financial commitment!” Then, we'll increase our giving for the pleasure it brings. After much debate, the committee decided that wouldn't do it.

We want to show everyone that your contributions are doing tremendous good – from basic expenses of the building, to how we make our church a caring member of the surrounding community.

Some people are delighted to see how efficiently and carefully our resources are used to sustain all our missions. Others are delighted by the heartwarming stories of how a bit of money was able to give a lift to somebody in great need.

As the next few weeks unfold, you will hear from some folks who are delighted by how things make sense in their head, and from folks who have been moved by what our church reaches out and does. These two are equally important ways for all of us to realize that there's a great deal of joy in sharing some of our resources with the church.

Finally, in this year of all years, financial support will play a key role for years to come in what may be the most important force to propel us forward: leadership! I believe the rarest skill in a leader of an organization is to build the organization, and then properly position it to GET BETTER when she or he hands off the baton to her or his successor. John McCall is such a leader. We all want to give the church the best chance to find a leader worthy of that baton handoff. There are many things a high caliber candidate will look for when she or he examines opportunities, and as any of us would also do, will look for a position that will allow us to earn fairly.

We on the Stewardship Committee look forward to delivering our messages, and urge you to think carefully on how you may be able to increase your giving from years past. There is Delight in Giving!

*Bill Campbell, Stewardship Committee member*

## Baptisms Scheduled

The sacrament of baptism will next be offered **November 11**. Baptism is appropriate at any age. For infants and children, families declare their intention to raise their child to be a

disciple within the fellowship of the church. For adults, baptism is a confession of faith in Jesus Christ. Contact John McCall for more information, [jbm@fccucc.org](mailto:jbm@fccucc.org)

## Inquirers Meeting Set for October 15<sup>th</sup>

Are you new to the church? Have you been worshiping for a few weeks or few months? Have you been around for a long time and never (quite) gotten around to becoming a member? You're warmly invited to join us **Monday, October 15, 7-9 p.m.** in Wright Pavilion for an informal **Inquirers' Meeting** where we'll get to know each other, talk about the

church, and answer questions so you can decide whether you're ready to become a covenant member.

Please call the church office (799-3361) or send us an email ([office@fccucc.org](mailto:office@fccucc.org)) to say you'll be there.

## Leisurely Lectionary Resumes

Our weekly study of the Bible has started again for the fall. We gather on **Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.** in

Davidson Lounge. No preparation is required except for an open heart. Please join us.

## It Starts With You *Conversation Training*

**It Starts With You *Conversation Training*** will take place on **Wednesday September 26th**, in Davidson Lounge and the Laity Room from **6-9 p.m.** Pizza, beverages, and dessert will be provided.

This program encourages personal one-on-one conversations between supporters of Marriage Equality and the people they know, and gives people the tools to open peaceful, respectful conversations that

encourage sharing, not debate, and that deepen our understanding of each other. Campaign organizers believe that just having a respectful, faith-based conversation with someone who is on the fence increases the chances that they will vote for Marriage Equality. This is a wonderful opportunity for each of us to "do justice".

Please call Joan Carrier at 799-4448 by 10 a.m., Tuesday, September 25th to register.



### STEEPLE LIGHTING

The steeple was lighted the week of **September 2** in memory of **Helen Calhoun Otis** by her son Jim and daughter Kathy Hollis and their families.

The steeple was lighted the week of **September 9** in loving memory of **Norman Fogg** by Ruth Fogg and family, and in loving memory of **John Wetmore Jr.** and parents **Mr. and Mrs. John Wetmore Sr.** and my parents **Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Strout** by Ina Wetmore.

The steeple was lighted the week of **September 16** in celebration of **Lily, Ainsley, Elsa and Tommy** from Nonna and PopPop.

The steeple is lighted the week of **September 23** in loving memory of **Fred Baggesen** by his daughter Sandra Hansen.

The steeple is lighted the week of **September 30** in loving memory of **Mark W. Andrews** by his mother Verna and sisters Julie and Ellen.

**ALTAR MEMORIALS**

The flowers on the altar **September 9** were given anonymously in honor of **First Congregational Church** and to the **Glory of God**.

The flowers on the altar **September 16** were given by Stanley and Marie Jordan and their grandchildren in loving memory of **Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd A. Jordan**.

The mission globe on the altar is lighted **September 23** by Deborah and Jim Rideout in memory of their parents **Eugene and Bernice Rideout** and **Linwood and Edithe Durrell**.

The flowers on the altar **September 30** are given by Judith and Shane Borelli in memory of our daughter **Paige**, and in shared celebration of the arrival of our newest nephew **Thomas Robert Lynch** from the Borellis and Redmonds.

**YOUTH MINISTRY 2012-2013 CALENDAR**

<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>14</b>	FALL YARD CLEANUP	12:00-5:00
		Meet in Church parking lot with rakes, gloves and work clothes	
	<b>27</b>	HAUNTED HAYRIDE	6:00-8:00
		Scarborough Downs 885-5935	
		<a href="http://hauntedhayridesmaine.com">http://hauntedhayridesmaine.com</a>	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>3</b>	PREBLE ST SOUP KITCHEN	5:30-7:30
		Meet in Church parking lot at 5:00	
<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>15</b>	CHRISTMAS CAROLING (tentative date)	5:30- 7:00
	<b>15</b>	LOCKIN for Grades 6-8 (tentative date)	7:00-???
<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>20</b>	SUPERBOWL SUB SALE	volunteers? 9:00 + 11:00
	<b>27</b>	SUPERBOWL SUB SALE	volunteers? 9:00 + 11:00
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>2</b>	SUPERBOWL SUB MAKING PARTY!!	6:00-7:30
	<b>3</b>	SUPERBOWL SUB PICKUP	volunteers? 9:00 + 11:00
	<b>3</b>	SEACOAST FUNPARK SNOW TUBING	12:00-2:00
		Leave right after service so bring your winter gear to church!	
		<a href="http://www.seacoastfunparks.com/snowparkpricing.asp">http://www.seacoastfunparks.com/snowparkpricing.asp</a>	
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>9</b>	BOWLING Scarborough Big 20	12:00-2:00
		Leave right after service so bring your bowling gear!	
<b>APRIL</b>	<b>6</b>	PREBLE ST SOUP KITCHEN	5:30-7:30
		Meet in church parking lot at 5:00	
<b>MAY</b>	<b>25</b>	FUNTOWN/.SPLASHTOWN USA!!	TBD
		<a href="http://www.funtownusa.com">http://www.funtownusa.com</a>	

*Jerry Reynolds*  
207-252-0847 cell  
207-510-1818 home  
[youth@fccucc.org](mailto:youth@fccucc.org)

## From the Music Committee

On **Sunday, September 30** the choir will be performing an anthem entitled *"Praise the Lord"*. This is a very special piece of music, not only because it is beautiful but also because it was composed by one of our congregation, Scott Steidl.

Please be sure to attend worship on **Sunday, September 30 at 10:00 a.m.** to hear this special music composed by one of our community.

*The Music Committee*  
[music@fccucc.org](mailto:music@fccucc.org)

## Don't Miss the Eskimo's Meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup>!

We will be in for a treat as our speaker will be retired USM History Professor **Joel Eastman**, one of the most knowledgeable people in the state on the military history of Maine. He has agreed to present an illustrated talk entitled: *"Anchors Aweigh: The U.S. Navy in Casco Bay, 1941-1967"*.

Only a few of us were around Portland during World War II to see just what happened here. Prof. Eastman will be addressing numerous topics and answering questions about the Navy's role in the Port of Portland. He will explain what base the Port was and why, as well as sharing photographs of that base during and after the war.

Do you know what the most important naval base in the continental United States during World War II was? Do you know what the vessels "USS Greer", "USS Kearney" and the "USS Reuben James" have in common?

Come to the Igloo, Guptill Hall, on **October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:15 p.m.** and re-live the excitement of World War II right here on Casco Bay! You will also enjoy a delicious meal at a very modest cost. You don't have to be an Eskimo to come to the meeting, just call Walt Jellison at 799-1023 so he can save room in the Igloo and have enough food for everyone.

## Watch and Reflect on Award Winning Film

**Sunday, October 7, at 11:30 a.m.** in Davidson Lounge, the Diversity Committee invites you to a screening of *Love Free or Die*. An award winner at several 2012 film festivals, the movie follows Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson, the first openly gay person to become a bishop in the historic traditions of Christendom. His consecration, in New Hampshire in 2003, to which he wore a bullet-proof

vest, caused an international stir, and he has lived with death threats every day since.

Dr. Marvin Ellison, Willard Bass Professor of Christian Ethics at Bangor Theological Seminary, and member of our congregation, will host a conversation following the movie. Refreshments will be provided.



### SENIOR ACTIVITIES

**Thursday, October 4 - SAGE meeting at 1:00.**

**Wednesday, October 10** - we will have **lunch at SMCC at noon**. The price is now \$16 per person. Please RSVP by October 1 – no exceptions, as they are being very strict about reservations this year.

**Wednesday, October 24** – we will leave the church at 10:30 for a foliage ride to Gray and **lunch at Cole Farms** restaurant.

**Wednesday, October 31** - meet at **9:00** for breakfast at I-Hop.

**Thursday, November 1 - SAGE meeting at 1:00.**

**FALL RUMMAGE SALE**

Don't forget our sale... **Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**! Look through your attic, garage and basement for things you no longer use. Someone else will think it's a great find and purchase it! Donations can be dropped off in Guptill Hall.

Please remember, no computers, typewriters, exercise equipment, or suitcases. We have a hard time disposing of them if they are not sold.

*Prudy Wiggins*  
799-5705  
rummagesale@fccucc.org

**A Christian family:**

**loving,  
welcoming,  
serving.**

**Volunteer Opportunity – Thanksgiving Baskets**

The Mission Outreach Team is looking for a volunteer to organize our annual Thanksgiving Baskets. If you might be interested in this short volunteer commitment and make a

difference in our community, please contact a M&O member or email [moteam@fccucc.org](mailto:moteam@fccucc.org).

**Neighbors in Need**

**Neighbors in Need** is the UCC's annual offering to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Your gift allows UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to continue its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis.

**We look forward to receiving your gift on October 7.** Please make your check payable to First Congregational Church, UCC and write NIN on the memo line. There will be Neighbors in Need envelopes in the pew racks. Thank you for your annual support of Neighbors in Need.

*Mission & Outreach Team*  
[moteam@fccucc.org](mailto:moteam@fccucc.org)

**Planned Giving**

Over the past two years, the Planned Giving Committee has presented messages in the Beacon discussing various ways for you to include the church in your long term plans through a planned gift. A planned gift is a gift by you which includes the church in your estate planning and creates a lasting legacy of support for the church and its mission. A planned gift may be made either during your

lifetime or as a bequest in your written will. Planned gifts are not the same as annual pledges and gifts which support the ongoing costs of church operations.

Planned gifts generally are structured to provide funds to support the church in the future following your death. They usually are identified

*(continued - pg. 7)*

## ADMINISTRATION

### Planned Giving (continued)

as a bequest in your will, as a named beneficiary of your retirement plan or as an indirect gifts through a trust.

Gifts made through a trust can be structured to provide current income to you throughout your lifetime with the balance in the trust passing to the church at your death. If this concept of indirect gifts is of interest to you, we strongly suggest you meet with an attorney who can help you establish a trust that can accomplish these objectives.

The more common types of planned gifts do not require the establishment of special trusts or extensive consultations with estate attorneys. These planned gifts simply require you to include the church to receive a portion of your estate upon your death. This can be accomplished by adding the church as a named beneficiary in your written will or adding the church as a beneficiary to your IRA or 401(k) retirement plan.

It is imperative that everyone have a written will to ensure that your personal assets will be distributed in accordance with your wishes. If you believe that the church has been important to you and your family, you should strongly consider naming the church to receive a portion of your estate in order to provide continuing support to the church well into the future. Generally, you will need an attorney in order to include appropriate wording in a will to

specify how much you choose to leave the church and any conditions or restrictions you might want to establish on the use of your bequest. Once a will has been drafted, it will direct the disposition of your assets after you die unless you supersede it by writing a new will.

One of the benefits of naming the church as a beneficiary of your IRA or your 401(k) retirement plan is that the church is a qualified charity. As a result, the church will not be subject to income taxes upon receipt of retirement plan assets after your death while individuals would have to pay income taxes on most if not all retirement plan distributions. Because of this, many people choose to leave the balance in their retirement funds to charities such as their church while leaving other assets to their family. The naming of beneficiaries to your retirement plan is not done in your will, but must be included in a beneficiary designation form available from the administrator of your retirement plan.

If you are interested in pursuing a planned gift or have questions about information in this message, feel free to call Ron Bennett at 772-1981 or 885-5546.

### CONSECRATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 21

Whether you give from the heart or from your head doesn't really matter. For most of us, it's probably some of both. What's important is that you give freely, generously and with delight.

Giving with delight? Yes, our stewardship theme this year is 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "God loves it when the giver delights in the giving." Over the next few weeks we hope to speak to your heart and your head. We're going to show you where your dollars go, why our church programs are so important, how the buying power of our dollars erodes over time, and how we can delight in our giving.

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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